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of material is attractively offered in concise form which enables the reader to readily comprehend the point advanced without unnecessary delay or a struggle with technicalities discouraging to the layman. Some very excellent suggestions are made with reference to the uses of the books and accounts which are peculiar to corporations and the methods for handling entries pertaining to their organization, sale of securities, treasury stock and kindred matters.

The balance of the work is devoted to negotiable instruments, corporate finances and corporate securities. The study and treatment of the "Negotiable Instrument Law" is clear and comprehensive, and if read in conjunction with the law is helpful and instructive. The remaining subjects mentioned are well treated, although most of the material has been ably presented by other writers.

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**Bierly, W. R.** *Police Power.* Pp. xxviii, 338. Price, \$3.50. Philadelphia: Rees Welsh & Co.

The justification for a general work on the important subject of "Police Power," hitherto so often chosen as the basis of a treatise, lies in the fact that many new laws have been enacted recently by congress and by the various state legislatures within the scope of this power. These new laws comprise among others the following: Railway Rate Regulation, Pure Food and Drugs, Potable Water, Public Health, Order and Safety—in general, laws restraining the corporate creatures of the state, laws curbing individuals in the exercise of their supposed private rights, and laws governing matters arising out of commercial and industrial relations.

Mr. Bierly discusses in the conventional manner the legal and constitutional doctrines and limitations embraced in his work, drawing with not too great clearness the line of demarcation between the Federal and State domains. Those matters which properly come within the police power are marshalled under such chapter titles as: "Due Process of Law," "Public Health and Safety," "Monopolies in Restraint of Trade," and "Railroads and Transportation." More than one-half of the printed book is given over to an *appendix* in which among other matters appears an address by Hon. Jeremiah S. Black, delivered in 1883, the Interstate Commerce Law, the National Pure Food Law, and various State laws regarding potable waters, contagious diseases, meat inspection, two-cent fare, trusts, etc., etc.

If much effort was expended in the collection of leading cases for use in the main part of the book the results are somewhat meagre. The arrangement of the quotations from the opinions of the various courts does the author credit, but there is no apparent effort to create anything, much less to prepare a careful treatise. In a production bearing so serious a title it is not the usual rule to pay compliments to individuals, yet the author with ill-concealed contempt pays his respects to the efficient efforts of the federal army to bring order out of the chaos of the Pullman car strike in Chicago, and

gives to Ex-Governor Altgeld the whole credit of having brought to a happy termination the worst strike Chicago has ever experienced. Impartial history informs us that it was the President of the United States who acted with celerity and due firmness in this trying situation and not a vacillating governor. Criticism of the supreme court under some circumstances may be virtuous, under others it is reprehensible. The author makes of such an indirect criticism an occasion to pay a compliment to the socialist leader Eugene V. Debs. Such an end is not altogether calculated to justify the means to most readers. Other instances are not wanting where a proper degree of cleverness would have greatly increased the real value of the book.

Had the author entitled his book "Police Power in the State of Pennsylvania," title, and subject matter, external to appendix, would not have been at variance. As it is the author has confined himself to the rulings of the supreme court of Pennsylvania to the marked exclusion of the rulings of equally competent courts in other jurisdictions.

But with all its faults the book is a good book, well suited to fit the tastes and necessities of one who is looking for many things in small compass.

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**Cook, F. A.** *To the Top of the Continent.* Pp. xxi, 321. Price, \$2.50. New York: Doubleday, Page & Co., 1908.

The appearance of Dr. Cook's complete narrative of his conquest of Mt. McKinley arouses especial interest at the present time because of the general anxiety concerning the author's safety in the Arctic. Under the circumstances it is somewhat amusing to read Dr. Cook's confession that he took up mountaineering as a sort of cure for the Arctic fever. The efficacy of the cure is indicated by the fact that he was already several months in the Arctic regions before the records of his mountaineering were off the press. Many readers have become familiar with part of the story of Cook's first attempt at Mt. McKinley through a series of rather undignified articles, contributed by a disgruntled companion to a popular magazine. Those readers will be gratified to have the present straightforward account and also will be pleased to note the entire absence of any personal animosity. Generously enough, Dr. Cook has only credit and praise whenever occasion arises to mention his comrades, but the average reader would undoubtedly appreciate a clearer statement of who these companions were and how it was that only one of them happened to be with the author when the coveted goal was reached.

So far as the results of the expeditions are concerned, it can not be said that the two summers, in 1903 and 1906, were spent entirely in vain. The ascent of the mountain in itself, of course, has neither practical nor scientific value, but the preliminary exploration required in making the attack resulted in the collection of much general information about a previously little known section. A sketch map embodying the principal geographic data thus gathered is included in the present volume. A line on this map, denoting the author's route, would have aided greatly in following his course of progress through